



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

**MAY 31 2006**

Mr. Scott C. Flanders, Director  
Environmental and Performance  
Assessment Directorate  
Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Flanders,

This is in response to your letter dated January 10, 2006, referencing the "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Request for Additional Information on the Draft Section 3116 Determination For Idaho Nuclear and Engineering Center Tank Farm Facility" submitted to Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on September 7, 2005. On March 17, 2006, the Department of Energy (DOE) forwarded to you a significant number of responses to the NRC request for additional information (RAI's) in order to begin NRC's review of the responses as part of the consultation process. On April 26, 2006, DOE forwarded to you all but one of the remaining RAI responses. RAI #17 has now been completed for submittal and is enclosed with this letter.

My staff as well as Idaho National Laboratory personnel are available to provide clarification or additional information on any of the RAI responses that you may need. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 586-0755.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Gilbertson", is written over a horizontal line.

Mark A. Gilbertson  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Engineering & Technology  
Office of Environmental Management

Enclosure:  
RAI #17 Response

cc:  
Kathleen Trever, State of Idaho

